able carrier was found to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.

A new type of high blood pressure disease, for which the name Schroeder's syndrome was suggested, and a sweat salt test for detecting it were discovered.

Method for producing amino acids for vein feeding cheaply on a mass scale was developed.

Accidental jaundice infection from the blood of donors was established as a new compensable occupational hazard for technicians or blood bank workers.

Evidence that sickle cell anemia may be the world's first molecular disease was presented.

Zirconium proved an antidote for plutonium poisoning in experiments with rats.

Rat experiments revealed that lithium chloride, salt substitute, causes death by its inhibitory effect on the breakdown of glucose to lactic acid.

Lead fiberglas clothing was developed as protection against radiation.

Tests of a new vitamin, called B₁₄, isolated from human kidney excretions, showed its ability to check reproduction of cancer cells but increase production of red blood cells in bone marrow.

Promise of safer blood and plasma transfusions followed the discovery that nitrogen mustard gas destroyed the jaundice virus.

Directing high-energy particles produced by the cyclotron into the center of a cancerous mass well below the skin in mice fulfilled hope that greater ionization and cancer tissue-destroying effect would result.

Animal experiments led to the first discovery that a chemical in cancer cells is responsible for disturbance of a generalized metabolic function in the thyroid gland.

First use of the atom-smashing betatron in the treatment of a human cancer patient was announced.

New tests for detecting cancer were: looking for anti-enzyme activity of the blood; comparing the clotting rate of heated blood to which iodoacetic acid has been added with that of normal blood; detecting electrical differences between cancer tissue and normal tissue.

New factor discovered in human blood, which endangers infants when their mothers lack it, has been named Cellano factor after the woman who was found without it.

Isolation of a virus which produces symptoms similar to the non-paralyzing form of polio was announced.

A new vitamin factor, called biocytin, was isolated from yeast.

Seasonal factors in growth were demonstrated in a study of muscular strength; gains in weight tend to be greater in the fall, but gains in height, skeletal maturity and strength are greater in the spring.

The Nobel peace prize was awarded to Lord Boyd Orr, Scottish nutrition authority.

The Nobel Prize in medicine was awarded to Dr. Egas Moniz, who discovered the sanity-restoring brain operation, and Dr. Rudolph Walter Hess, for his discovery of the role of the brain stem in inducing sleep.

PSYCHIATRY AND PSYCHOLOGY

Psychiatry Taught to Hospital Attendants

A new school was organized to teach psychiatry to mental hospital attendants.

Roland J. Brand, attendant at the Milwaukee, Wis., County Asylum was given a new award, "Psychiatric Aide of the Year."

Histamine was found to be effective in treat-

ment of the mentally ill, alone or in combination with electric shock.

Failure of the adrenal glands to respond to stimulation by ACTH from the pituitary was found to lead to inadequacy of the stress-response mechanism; this may be a factor in the production of schizophrenia.

Good results were reported in the trial of electroshock treatment for prevention of a return of mental illness in recovered patients.

Death rate from cancer is lower among mental patients than in the general population, it was found, incidence of hay fever is also less.

The \$1,500 Lester N. Hofheimer Research award for outstanding accomplishment in the field of psychiatry and mental hygiene was awarded to Dr. Benjamin Pasamanik for his study demonstrating the role of environmental factors on mental development.

A link was found between the alpha rhythm brain waves and voluntary muscular movements; action tends to take place at the time of the peak of the alpha rhythm.

Kappa brain waves—those electric signals from the brain itself that are associated with thinking—are most active when you are realling imperfectly learned material and come in bursts as the solution of a problem is found.

In general, pain shows up in brain waves as a decrease in amplitude, it was found.

The newly founded American Academy for Cerebral Palsy inaugurated a brain registry where brains were accepted for neuropathological studies of cerebral palsy.

On the basis of animal experimentation, regressions and fixations were explained as resulting from early learning too strongly stamped in by excessive motivation or frustration, believed also to account for unreasonable hatred of outsiders.

Definite and substantial relation was found between an individual's regard for himself and his prejudice against others; both could be altered by psychotherapy.

In many cases crime has its roots in bicker-

ing, nagging and other forms of tension in the home, psychological study of the families of juvenile delinquents and criminals revealed.

On the average infantile paralysis does not leave pronounced after effects on the nervous habits or behavior of child patients, it was observed.

Children highly prejudiced against foreigners or minority groups tend to have a biased or distorted memory of things that happen and of stories read to them, it was found.

First study was completed in 10-year program of research on effects of different kinds of groups on the way people act; it was found the highest production occurs when the individuals feel identified with their work.

Failure of the pre-election polls in the fall of 1948 was found to be due to failure to improve techniques to keep step with advances in psychological science.

The ear was found to have an automatic means of reducing its sensitivity to noise made by the same animal.

A temporary loss of sensitivity to sound was found to occur during exposure to sound at all intensities.

A ten-year systematic investigation of the growth of visual functions in relations to the total make-up of infant and child was completed, defining a new field of developmental optics.

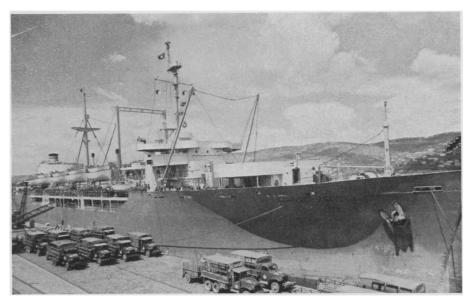
The most sensitive index point in the center of the eye was mapped and measured accurately for the first time.

Glutamic acid helped some children with mongoloid mental deficiency to improve in intelligence.

If a nursing mother's diet lacks thiamine, her baby may later be sub-normal in ability to learn, experiments with rats disclosed.

Techniques developed for the selection of men for hazardous behind-enemy lines work during the war were applied to research on the pesonality factors that lead to unusual success in living.

Science News Letter, December 24, 1949



"OPERATION SEASICKNESS"—Dramamine was under investigation on the voyage of the U. S. Army Transport General C. C. Ballou across the North Atlantic between Nov. 27 and Dec. 7, 1948. The Ballou was carrying 1,366 replacement troops en route from New York to Bremerhaven, Germany, on this extremely rough crossing which provided ideal conditions for a controlled study of motion sickness at sea.